

Third, we believe specific mention should have been made of the International Labor Organization's decision last June to condemn Burma's continued use of forced labor and forced portage, especially of members of ethnic minorities, for military and civilian infrastructure projects. The ILO recommends, and my government strongly agrees, that Burma should bring both its laws and its practices into compliance with internationally recognized standards of workers' rights.

Finally, we believe that more specific and urgent attention should have been given in the resolution to important events that occurred in Rangoon near the end of last month. I refer, of course, to the withdrawal and subsequent expulsion from the National Convention of delegates from the National League for Democracy.

The governing State Law and Order Restoration Council, or SLORC, has asked the world to view the Convention as a representative mechanism for drafting a new constitution and facilitating a transition to democracy. Clearly, it is not that if the National League for Democracy, which received 60 percent of the votes in the 1990 election, is not free to participate openly, freely and without fear of intimidation. We must remember that the SLORC handpicked all the delegates, greatly under-representing those from the democratic movement.

Following the release from detention last July of Aung San Suu Kyi, there were hopes that the National Convention would, in fact, become a meaningful forum for discussion about Burma's future. Instead, the Government has maintained its habit of rigid control, and the few representatives of the democratic movement and of the various ethnic groups have been prohibited from voicing dissenting views.

The SLORC has said that its goals for Burma include economic prosperity and multiparty democracy. Burma's democratic leaders share those goals. The General Assembly should continue to express strong and unyielding support for actions that would close the great divide that now exists between what the SLORC professes to want and what it has thus far been prepared to do.

In this connection, my Government also wants to express its very great concern about recent statements from Rangoon that brand Aung San Suu Kyi and her supporters as "traitors" and speak of "annihilating" those who criticize the National Convention. The SLORC should have no doubt that it will be held responsible for any actions that result in physical harm or unjust punishment against those who have simply engaged in the peaceful exercise of internationally recognized rights.

In closing, Mr. President, let me once again congratulate the Swedish mission for its leadership on this resolution. Let me restate my Government's strong endorsement of its core recommendations in support of human rights and a substantive political dialogue. And let me re-emphasize my Government's concern about recent events and its hope that the Government of Burma will reconsider its policies and begin now to move down a democratic path.

#### LET'S HEAR IT FOR QUEEN ISABELLA

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 1995

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share with my colleagues the fol-

lowing letter to the Editor in the Trenton Times on November 26, 1995.

#### LET'S HEAR IT FOR QUEEN ISABELLA

Nov. 26, 1504, is a milestone in history that should never be forgotten, especially by New Jerseyans and Pennsylvanians.

Why? Because that's the date that Queen Isabella of Castile, the great woman who was instrumental in the discovery of America, passed away at her castle in Medina del Campo, Spain.

A year ago, Nov. 6—yes, that far back and the news just reaching our shores—the worldwide BBC/TV in London aired a documentary for their "Time-Watch," its peak-audience program, in which their scholarly panel exonerated Queen Isabella of Spain from historical lies attributed to her regarding the Inquisition.

That Queen Isabella did not act out of any anti-Semitic, racial or religious hatred or bigotry can be firmly substantiated by her unequivocal condemnation and personal interventions to stop riots and acts of violence against Spaniards of Jewish descent even before her formal accession to the throne, and sometimes at the loss of support of wealthy and influential partisans.

Lastly, an intelligent response to the long-time assault upon Queen Isabella and her legacy requires knowledge of the actual history of her now celebrated reign.

So, on this 491st anniversary of her death, let's tip our hats, and on April 22, her birthday, let's let loose with a big "Ole."—John Paul Paine, Philadelphia, PA.

#### EXPRESSING SORROW AT THE PASSING OF MRS. ELLA H. BECTON

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 1995

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, It is with great sadness that I rise to announce the passing of Mrs. Ella H. Becton on December 11, 1995. Mrs. Becton formerly served as executive director of the Phillis Wheatley Association. At the time of her death, she was an associate on the staff of the Murtis H. Taylor Multi Services Center. With her passing, the Cleveland community suffers the loss of a dedicated human being. I want to share with my colleagues and others throughout the Nation some information concerning a special individual who touched the lives of many.

Ella Becton was the daughter of Ella H. Wilson and the late Kalep Wilson. She was reared in Birmingham, AL, and went on to earn a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from Wilberforce University. Ella earned a master's degree in psychology and rehabilitation counselling at Wayne State University. After completing her education, Ella Becton began her professional career at the Lapeer State Home and Training School for the Mentally Retarded in East Lansing, MI. She relocated to Cleveland, OH where she married Leroy Becton, and began working for Vocational Guidance Rehabilitation Services.

Ella Becton's most significant career challenge came when she was selected as executive director of the Phillis Wheatley Association. The association is one of the oldest social service organizations in the area. Under Mrs. Becton's leadership, the Phillis Wheatley Association reached out to the elderly popu-

lation, families, and the youth of the community with services and programs to assist them. During her tenure, the organization developed a summer camp, an elderly meals program, a day care program, a music school, and the Youth Computer Center created in conjunction with Case Western Reserve University. Ella Becton was a dedicated individual who sought to improve the lives of others.

During her lifetime, Ella Becton also earned the respect and admiration of her colleagues and others throughout the community. She was the recipient of numerous awards and honors which recognized her commitment and dedication to service.

Mr. Speaker, the passing of Ella Becton brings to a close a life of love and compassion. Those of us who were the beneficiaries of her unselfish devotion will miss our friend and colleague. She was a woman of grace and dignity, and she was very special to all who knew her. I take this opportunity to express my sympathy to Ella's mother, Ella H. Wilson, and her loving husband, Leroy. I also extend my sympathy to her sons, Leroy, Jr., and Aaron, and other members of the Becton family. God has called Ella Becton home to rest, but she will always be in our hearts.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICARE PREVENTIVE BENEFITS IMPROVEMENT ACT

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 13, 1995

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Medicare Preventive Benefits Improvement Act. This bill seeks to amend Medicare by adding new preventive benefits to the program—benefits that not only save lives, but improve quality of life, and will save Medicare expenditures in the long run.

My bill would improve Medicare by adding the following new benefits:

Mammography: The benefit would be expanded so that all women over age 50 would be eligible for yearly mammographies and the deductible is waived.

Screening pap smears and pelvic exams: Expands the benefit from the 3-year limitation so that women of childbearing age or at high risk of developing cervical cancer are eligible for yearly pap smears and cervical exams. The deductible is also waived.

Colorectal cancer screening: Adds procedures for the purpose of early detection of colorectal cancer. These tests would include: screening fecal occult blood test, screening flexible sigmoidoscopy, and colonoscopy for high risk individuals. The Secretary also would make a decision within two years about covering screening barium enemas as an alternative to flexible sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy. In addition, changes in technology would be taken into account to update the benefit in future years.

Prostate cancer screening: Adds procedures for the purpose of early detection of prostate cancer in men. The tests would include a digital rectal examination and a prostate-specific antigen blood test. In addition, changes in technology would be taken into account to update the benefit in future years.

Diabetes screening benefits: Adds two new diabetes benefits. First, coverage of diabetes